



U.S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation

Washington, D. C. 20535

MAY 6 1999

Mr. Ernie Lazar
P.O. Box 423434
San Francisco, CA 94142-3434

Subject of Request: Eugene Connor

FOIPA NO. 446361/190-HQ-1250177

Dear Requester:

Enclosed are copies of documents from FBI records. Excisions have been made to protect information exempt from disclosure pursuant to Title 5, United States Code, Section 552 (Freedom of Information Act) and/or Section 552a (Privacy Act). In addition, where excisions were made, the appropriate exempting subsections have been cited opposite the deletions. Where pages have been withheld in their entirety, a deleted page information sheet has been substituted showing the reasons or basis for the deletion. The subsections cited for withholding information from the enclosed documents are marked below:

Section 552

- ☐ (b)(1)
- ☐ (b)(2)
- ☒ (b)(3)
- ☐ (b)(4)
- ☐ (b)(5)
- ☐ (b)(6)

Section 552a

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> (b)(7)(A) | <input type="checkbox"/> (d)(5) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (b)(7)(B) | <input type="checkbox"/> (j)(2) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (b)(7)(C) | <input type="checkbox"/> (k)(1) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (b)(7)(D) | <input type="checkbox"/> (k)(2) |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> (b)(8) | <input type="checkbox"/> (k)(5) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (b)(9) | <input type="checkbox"/> (k)(6) |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> (k)(7) |

(See Form OPCA-16a, enclosed, for an explanation of these exemptions.)

Pursuant to your request, **142** preprocessed pages are being released.

The documents responsive to your request were previously processed for another requester. In order to provide the information you requested as soon as possible, we have released the FBI information as it was originally processed. We have not contacted other government agencies concerning their information in FBI files.

CORRELATION SUMMARY

CONFIDENTIAL

Main File No: 157-1203
See also: 9-26769
9-38718
44-13501
44-16495
44-19726
46-19981
157-944

Date: December 5, 1963

CLASSIFIED AND EXTENDED BY SP1/GSK/Ghh 3481
REASON FOR EXTENSION 2
FOUO
DATE OF REVIEW 12-5-83
DECLASSIFICATION

Subject: Theo Eugene Connor
One Connor*

Date Searched: 5/2/63

All logical variations of subject's name and aliases were searched and identical references were found as:

~~Theo Eugene Connor~~
~~Bull Connor~~
~~Eugene Conner~~
~~Eugene Bull Connor~~
~~Bull Connor~~
~~Eugen Connor~~
~~Eugene Connor~~

~~Eugene Bull Connor~~
~~Eugene A. Connor~~
~~T. E. Connor~~
~~Bull Connors~~
~~Eugene Connors~~
~~Bull O Connor~~

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

This is a summary of information obtained from a review of all "see" references to the subject in Bureau files under the names and aliases listed above. All references under the above names containing data identical with the subject have been included except those listed at the end of this summary as not having been reviewed, or those determined to contain the same information as the main file.

This summary is designed to furnish a synopsis of the information set out in each reference. In many cases the original serial will contain the information in much more detail.

THIS SUMMARY HAS BEEN PREPARED FOR USE AT THE SEAT OF GOVERNMENT AND IS NOT SUITABLE FOR DISSEMINATION.

Analyst

Coordinator

Approved

(b7c)

CHK:mfr:brh

*Not completely searched. See search slip page 37.

ENCLOSURE
ENCL BEHIND FILE.
SEARCH SLIPS ONLY.
5 DEC 16 1963

DEC 5 1963

This reference sets out information concerning plans of Commissioner Eugene "Bull" Connor and Chief of Police T. A. Riley, of Birmingham, to form a Birmingham Police Department Crime Laboratory (80-606-54). Connor and Riley requested help of the Bureau in setting up such a laboratory.

This information was submitted by Birmingham letter dated 12/26/37.

80-606-54-5 p. 1,2,3
(11/28)✓

This reference, in the file captioned "Law Enforcement Officers Contacts by SAC" (66-3579), set out information concerning Bureau contacts with the Birmingham, Alabama PD and with Eugene Connor, Commissioner of Public Safety, during April 1939. On 4/12/39 Connor addressed the Police School graduation banquet held by the Birmingham PD, and referred to Mr. Hoover and the FBI in the highest terms.

66-3579-1987 p. 1,2
(11)✓

The following references contain information concerning an ordinance drafted in 1940 by Police Commissioner Eugene "Bull" Connor, Birmingham PD, to require the fingerprinting of all aliens in Birmingham. This ordinance had other clauses which were aimed directly at prosecution of any person engaged in any un-American activity whatsoever. Connor submitted a copy of this ordinance to the Bureau and requested any comment, approval, or disapproval of such ordinance. Connor was advised that the Bureau had no jurisdiction to make any comment on this matter.

REFERENCE

SEARCH SLIP PAGE NUMBER

62-22932-244 p. 1

(4)✓

66-5424-1-268 p. 1, Encl. p. 3,5
-270 p. 1, Encl. p. 1,2
-293 p. 1
-343 p. 1,2

(11)✓
(11/28)✓
(11)✓
(35)✓

An unidentified newspaper clipping in the files of the Birmingham Office revealed that Laurent Frantz was subpoenaed before the Dies Committee in Washington, D.C. in April 1940 for questioning concerning his activities in the CP. Frantz denied that he was a CP member and said that his arrest by the Birmingham PD was a violation of his civil rights. Eugene Connor of Birmingham upheld the arrest of Frantz and branded him as a communist.

116-199479-16 p. 8
(15)✓

This reference is an undated six-page document captioned "Press Digest On Sabotage, Espionage, and Related Matters" (65-18237), time stamped in the Bureau on 7/8/40. Under the heading "Civil Liberties" it was stated that Commissioner Eugene Connor of Birmingham, Alabama had granted Jehovah's Witnesses their right under the law to circulate a petition but refused to guarantee immunity from arrest in case a householder should want to charge "trespass."
(No source)

65-18237-6X p. 6
(11)✓

On 8/16/40, Commissioner Eugene "Bull" Connor was conducted on a special tour (94-2) of the FBI in Washington, D.C. He had high praise for the laboratory and expressed high respect for the Birmingham Office.

94-2-19716X4 p. 1
(11/29)✓

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X-CONFIDENTIAL

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

The 1/17/41 issue of the "Birmingham News" in an article entitled "Connor and Three Other City Officials Sentenced to Jail" reported that Commissioner Eugene "Bull" Connor and other officials were sentenced to serve forty-eight hours in the County Jail for contempt of court. The Judge ruled that it was contempt when on 10/26/40, police seized a print of a controversial motion picture film "French Girl's Club", several hours after an injunction had been issued to prevent interference with exhibition of the film.

62-44462-A "Birmingham News",
(7,26,37)✓ 1/17/41

(b7c) [REDACTED] (70-6401) was interviewed concerning a shot-gun attack made on his residence [REDACTED]. When pressed for expressions of suspicions concerning this attack [REDACTED] named several individuals, one of whom was Bull Connor, Police Commissioner of Birmingham. [REDACTED] stated, however, that he had no reason to believe that any of these individuals were a party to the attack. [REDACTED] stated that he had criticized Connor repeatedly and had antagonized him to a considerable degree.

70-6401-5 p. 12
(28)✓

The following references in the file captioned "Auxiliary Police, Birmingham, Alabama" (94-1-27514), contain information pertaining to a speech given by a Bureau official on 3/15/42, in the Municipal Auditorium, Birmingham, before a group of more than 4,000 auxiliary police who had graduated from a training course. The request to have an FBI official speak before this group was made by Eugene "Bull" Connor, Public Safety Commissioner, Birmingham.

SERIAL

SEARCH SLIP PAGE NUMBER

- 1 p. 1
- 2 p. 1,2
- 3 p. 1, Encl. p. 2
- 4 Encl. p. 1,3,4,5,6

(40)✓
(39,40)✓
(not indexed)
(not indexed)

(b7c) On 8/31/42, Eugene "Bull" Connor advised that he had learned that the FBI was making an investigation of the case of [REDACTED] (44-637). Connor stated that although the shooting in this case did not take place within the city of Birmingham and was outside of his jurisdiction he was communicating with the President pointing out that investigations by federal authorities at this time in this type of case were most dangerous to national defense in view of the acute racial situation existing in the South, and that such investigations would tend to precipitate violence and resultant damage to national defense as same would cause Negroes to revolt in vital industries.

44-637-5 p. 1
(3/23)✓

On 7/14/43, the Birmingham Office advised that recently there had appeared in the Birmingham newspapers certain statements made by Commissioner Eugene "Bull" Connor to the effect that detectives of the Birmingham PD would check all prospective customers of state liquor stores in Birmingham to determine whether or not they were complying with the Selective Training and Service Act and if they were not they would be reported to the FBI.

66-8054-4-46 p. 1
(11/28)✓

(b7c)
p3
[REDACTED]

62-302-4-11 p. 5,6
(4/24)✓

(37D)
(1)

CONFIDENTIAL

100-10355-147 p. 10
(14)✓

The Birmingham Office furnished an article from the 4/16/45 issue of the "Birmingham News" entitled "Mullins Says Policemen Should Be Taught Scientific Methods." This article commented upon a speech given over the radio by former Police Captain Chester L. Mullins (1-2067), FBI NA graduate, in connection with his effort to displace Eugene "Bull" Connor, Commissioner of Fire and Police at Birmingham.

1-2067-25 p. 1 Encl. p. 1
(2✓22)✓

In September 1945, Eugene Conner advised that he, as Commissioner of Public Safty in Birmingham, in conjunction with the Parents'-Teachers' Association, had sponsored youth dances following high school football games in an effort to eliminate vandalism and rowdiness following night games.

62-26225-5-77 p. 1
(39)✓

CONFIDENTIAL

The following references in the file captioned "Police Training-Birmingham" (1-1152-4) contain information concerning an in-service training school held by the Bureau at Birmingham, Alabama, during April and May 1947. While this school was in session Eugene "Bull" Connor, Birmingham Public Safety Commissioner, wrote to the Director thanking him for making the training available and expressing his appreciation. Connor invited Mr. Hoover to come to Birmingham to speak at a joint meeting of high school boys of the county and to law enforcement officers.

SERIAL

16 p. 1
21X p. 1
25 p. 1

SEARCH SLIP PAGE NUMBER

(2,22)✓
(2,22)✓
(2)✓

(b7c) This reference captioned "Bessemer, Alabama Police Department" (62-50677) sets out information concerning the unauthorized use by the City Commissioner of Bessemer, Alabama, for political reasons, of criminal identification records issued by the Bureau on [REDACTED]. It was the opinion of informants that these records had been obtained from Commissioner Eugene "Bull" Connor of the Birmingham PD.

This information was reported by Birmingham letter dated 12/17/47.

62-50677-14 p. 1
(7,26)✓

On 1/31/48, a press release was issued in Birmingham by Samuel Joseph Hall (100-1548) in his capacity as chairman of the Alabama CP, Birmingham. In this press release Hall particularly attacked Commissioner Eugene "Bull" Connor, whom he blamed for promoting segregation and for advocating legislation which outlawed the CP.

The 2/15/48 issue of "The Worker" carried an article based upon Hall's press release.

(continued on next page)

(continued)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Hall's statement drew an immediate reply from Commissioner Connor and Gessner T. McCorvey of the Alabama State Democratic Committee. Hall replied to them in a public statement printed in the Birmingham newspapers charging them with being afraid to discuss the real issues.

100-1548-38 p. 3

(14/30)✓

SI 100-3-32-262 p. 15

(12/29)✓

The Justice Department advised that the Southern Negro Youth Congress (SNYC) (44-2029) held a meeting in Birmingham on 4/30/48. Shortly thereafter Louis E. Burnham, executive secretary of the SNYC was taken by detectives of the Birmingham Police Department on different occasions to City Commissioner Eugene Connor who warned Burnham that their "mixed meetings" were illegal in Birmingham.

The Justice Department further advised that in connection with events which took place in Birmingham before and after the meeting in question, it appeared that wilful violations of the civil rights statutes may have been committed by Commissioner Connor and the detectives involved, and it was requested by the Justice Department that Connor be interviewed to determine his version of all events in question, his understanding of the legal basis for the arrests, and if advisable, his motives and intentions in the matter.

44-2029-8 p. 1,2

(3)✓

SI 44-2029-6 p. 1

(3)✓

B7C
B7D



88-3736-18 p. 4

(28)✓

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-9-

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The following references in the file captioned "Southern Negro Youth Congress" (SNYC) (100-6548) contain information pertaining to the activities of Commissioner Eugene "Bull" Connor in attempting to prevent the SNYC from holding a convention in Birmingham on April 30, May 1 and 2, 1948.

SERIAL	SEARCH SLIP PAGE NUMBER
323 p. 1	(30)✓
329 p. 1	(35)✓
330 p. 1	(14)✓
331 p. 1	(14)✓
342 p. 3	(14,30)✓

On 5/11/48, the Birmingham Office called in regard to a Bureau request to interview Chief of Police Eugene Connors in regard to [REDACTED]

b7c
The Birmingham Office further advised that recently Connors had [REDACTED] and it was the opinion of the Birmingham Office that if they contacted Connors concerning [REDACTED] he would jump to the conclusion that this was a roundabout way of approaching him concerning [REDACTED]

The Bureau concurred in the opinion of the Birmingham Office that Connor should not be contacted at that time.

121-4328-1X11 p. 1
(38)✓

The 9/8/48 issue of the "DW" carried an article entitled "Frustration of a Jimcrow Cop in Alabama," which reported that on the previous Wednesday Henry Wallace, Presidential candidate, spoke in Birmingham and that Eugene "Bull" Connor had attempted to enforce segregation at the meeting. This article stated that Connor was a little man who "had risen in the ranks of US Steel puppetdom from a furniture salesman to a regional fuehrer."

100-3-75-A "DW" 9/8/48, p. 7
(12,29)✓

CONFIDENTIAL

(b7C) This reference captioned "Dynamiting of Negro Houses in North Smithfield Division, Birmingham, Alabama, March 25, 1949" (44-2004) stated that on 8/4/49, a delegation of five colored people who described themselves as representatives of the Birmingham Property Owners' Protective Association, and residents of the above area came to the FBI Office in Birmingham. One member of this delegation, [redacted] stated that he moved into his residence on [redacted] and on the same day Commissioner Eugene (Bull) Connor visited him and advised him that he felt that if he did not move away his presence might lead to violence and that if he were in [redacted] place he would move immediately.

44-2004-52 p. 1,2
(3/23)✓
SI 44-2004-29 p. 1,2
(3)✓

The Birmingham Office forwarded excerpts from a speech given by Commissioner Eugene "Bull" Connor at a convention of the Alabama Sheriffs' and Peace Officers' Convention held in Birmingham on 6/23/49. In this speech Connor was very commendatory of the Director.

94-1-651-228 p. 1, Encl.
(11/28)✓

By letter dated 8/23/49, the Birmingham Office, in advising of another matter, stated that if it were necessary for members of the Birmingham PD to arrest Negroes for violation of a zoning law in Birmingham that the arrests would be based on instructions of Commissioner Eugene "Bull" Connor, a States Righter who claimed that he would arrest anyone violating this new ordinance.

94-3-1-12357 p. 1
(35)✓

(b7C) [redacted]
(b7D) [redacted]
100-3-57-107 p. 5
(39/41)✓

(B1) [REDACTED]

Letter and Fact Sheet enclosed
100-3-70-901, Encl. p. 1,4
(22)✓

(B7C
B7D) [REDACTED]

Statements in this regard had been widely publicized in the press as a result several local CP leaders, including Sam J. Hall and his wife Sylvia Bernard Hall (100-347609) had left the city.

The 8/21/50 issue of the "DW" carried an article entitled "Everything Decent is Called Communism by Alabama Cops." The article quoted Mrs. Hall as relating several instances when Connor labeled different matters as "communism" which the article inferred were not.

100-347609-17 p. 3,4
(14)✓

The 6/30/51 issue of the "Birmingham News" carried an article captioned "Negro Group to Seek FBI Probe of Policy, Action of City Police," which stated that Walter White, NAACP (61-3176) executive secretary, announced in Atlanta, Georgia that he would confer with the US AG to seek a federal probe of the Birmingham PD. White made this announcement after the NAACP, at a convention held in Atlanta, adopted a resolution attacking the Birmingham PD. This resolution stated that the Birmingham PD, under the ruthless direction of Commissioner Eugene Connor, had established a shameless record for daily disregard of the elementary civil rights of Negroes.

61-3176-A "Birmingham News,"
(4)✓ 6/30/51

(B1) [REDACTED]

100-3-32-268 p. 8
(12/29)✓

(B7C) On 1/18/52, the Justice Department furnished a Photostat of an article appearing in the 1/8/52 issue of the "Birmingham World" which article had been received from [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] This article was in regard to the recent trial of Police Commissioner Eugene Connor on charges arising out of alleged immoral activities on the part of Connor in a hotel room. This article, captioned "'Bull' Connor Fined, Given 180 Day Suspended Jail Sentence", reported that Detective Henry L. Darnell, member of the Birmingham Police Department, in whose car dynamite had been placed, accused Connor of wanting him killed.

The Justice Department requested that Darnell be interviewed in view of the possibility that the Birmingham bombings might be found to involve Birmingham City officials as implied by Darnell.

44-3553-6 p. 1, Encl. p. 1,2
(3/23)✓

(B1) [REDACTED]

100-347401-68 p. 1
(14/30)✓

Negro homes in Birmingham. had arranged for the bombing of

44-4036-510 p. 601
(2341)✓

100-7801-1633 p. 11
(30)✓

The 12/7/57 issue of the "Birmingham News" indicated that the above explosion occurred that day.

105-61538-14 Enc1. p. 2
(15)✓

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

(11, 29)

(374)

[REDACTED] was identified as the individual who was responsible for the attempted bombing of [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

(6, 26)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

The 5/1/58 issue of the "Florida Times-Union" Jacksonville, Florida carried an article captioned "No Solution To Bombing Blasts Near" which reported on a conference to be held the following Saturday in Jacksonville by mayors and police chiefs of Miami, Florida, Nashville, Tennessee and Birmingham in an attempt to solve recent bombings in those areas. Police Commissioner T. E. Connor of Birmingham was to bring some very valuable information on 52 sticks of dynamite which had been placed in a synagogue in Birmingham but had failed to explode.

100-135-63-A "Florida Times - Union"
(37)✓ Jacksonville, Florida
5/1/58

SI 100-135-63-A "Jacksonville Journal"
(39)✓ 5/4/58

(B7C)
(B7D)

7-9023-1 enc1. p. 1
(22)✓

(B7C)
(B7D)

63-4296-4-84 p. 1
(10,28)✓

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

The 9/12/58 issue of the "Birmingham News" carried an article entitled "Connor Slams Door in Face of Rights Probers." This article stated that Commissioner Eugene Connor on that date closed the doors of the Birmingham city jail and refused police cooperation with any federal civil rights investigators or U.S. marshals involved in integration incidents.

62-105210-A "Birmingham News,"
(10) 9/12/58

The 9/13/58 issue of the "Mobile Press," Mobile, Alabama, carried an article entitled "Paterson Says Alabama's Schools Will Not Be Mixed" which quoted Birmingham Police Commissioner Eugene Connor as stating that the Supreme Court's school integration order could trigger a season of violence in the South. He stated further that "It means that blood of both races will run in the streets."

100-135-61-507 Encl. p. 3
(14)

On 10/28/58, Wilson White* advised that the Chief of Police at Birmingham, "Bull" Connor, had been involved in a flagrant situation which he, White, had just discussed with the US Attorney in Birmingham. White stated that the Reverend Shuttlesworth had gotten on a bus in Birmingham the previous week and had failed to observe the Jim Crow regulations and was thereupon arrested by the police. The Reverend Martin Luther King sent a committee of three to visit Shuttlesworth. While these individuals were at Shuttlesworth's home on 10/27/58 they were arrested at about 11:00 a.m. by the police and held without charges until later in the day when they were released.

White believed that a preliminary inquiry into a violation of Civil Rights should be made.

100-135-61-521 p. 1
(30)

* Apparently of the Justice Department

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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The 10/30/58 issue of the "Mobile Register," Mobile, Alabama, reported that on 10/26/58, three Negro ministers were arrested in Birmingham on vagrancy charges and were held for several hours before they were released and the charges dropped. According to this article the Justice Department, Washington, D.C. disclosed that it was investigating the arrest of these individuals to determine whether their civil rights had been violated.

According to this article Police Commissioner Eugene Connor stated that Birmingham "does not need any outside agitators coming into our city and dabbling into our affairs."

100-135-61-523 encl. p. 4
(14)

The 1/16/59 issue of the "Birmingham News" carried an article entitled "In Connor, FBI Tiff--Judge Lynne Rebuffs US in Jury Call." This article stated that on 11/13/58, Attorney General Rogers asked for an immediate Grand Jury probe after Commissioner Eugene Connor ordered the police officers of the Birmingham Police Department not to give information to the FBI about the arrest of three Negro ministers on 10/27/58. Hanibal Hillmon Hubbard (44-13806) was one of these ministers. Judge Seybourn Lynne refused to recall the Grand Jury before 2/10/59.

44-13806-A "Birmingham News" 1/16/59
(3)

(B7C)
(B7D)

63-4296-4-119 p. 3
(10,28)

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

874 On 11/20/58, the Atlanta Office advised concerning the bombing of The Temple, 1589 Peachtree Road, Atlanta, Georgia. According to the Atlanta Office, [REDACTED] had returned that day from Birmingham where he [REDACTED] conferred with the four Birmingham detectives who participated in the investigation of the Birmingham bombings. This conference was held in the office of Commissioner Eugene Connor.

62-105023-735 p. 1
(10)✓

On 11/21/58, the AG advised the Director that the Justice Department was bringing in USA William L. Longshore from Birmingham to discuss the attitudes concerning the matter involving Commissioner "Bull" Connor of Birmingham.

44-13806-30 p. 1
(3,23)✓

Correlator's note: From a review of serial 33 in this file it appeared that the above mentioned matter probably referred to the refusal of Connor to furnish certain information to representatives of the FBI.

On 2/9/59, the Birmingham Office discussed with Police Commissioner Eugene Connor the matter of notification to interested law enforcement agencies of any threats. Connor said that this was clear to him and that he had no objection to notification to such agencies since he realized that it was the duty of local law enforcement to afford protection to its citizens.

62-105023-1332 p. 1
(10)✓

By letter dated 4/30/59, the Birmingham Office reported the following:

"Bull Connor, Commissioner of Police, Birmingham Police Department, is silent at the moment and we are apparently getting along well with him. I feel, in all sincerity, he was disappointed at not having been indicted by a recent Grand Jury which heard a Civil Rights case in which he was involved.

(continued on next page)

(continued)

CONFIDENTIAL

"The Birmingham PD recently solved a hit and run case, in which case our Laboratory made an examination of evidence which was most helpful in the case. Connor was very complimentary to the Laboratory, and it is felt that he is, although rather slowly, yet surely, becoming more of a friend of the Bureau each day. Evidence of this was his statement made before several people, 'Anybody who won't cooperate with the FBI ain't honest'."

62-105051-387 p. 2
(28)

The 10/24/59 issue of the "Birmingham Post-Herald", in an article captioned "Connor Says He'll Run for Committee," reported that on 10/23/59 Eugene Connor stated that he intended to run for Democratic National Committeeman from Alabama. Connor was a delegate to the national convention in 1948 and was among the "walk-out" delegates who protested the strong civil rights platform of the Democratic Party.

44-0-A "Birmingham Post-Herald"
(3) 10/24/59

The following references are newspaper clippings which appear in the file captioned "Segregation" and contain information concerning the efforts of Commissioner Eugene Connor to maintain segregation. Connor asked Pastor F. L. Shuttlesworth to take a lie test concerning the bombing of his church and home in Birmingham on 12/25/56. Shuttlesworth stated that he would submit to such a test if Connor would submit to a lie test concerning his KKK sympathies, graft and corruption in the Birmingham PD, Connor's participation in bombings, and whether Connor encouraged police brutality. Connor did not submit to such a test.

Connor, in campaigning for the position of delegate to the Democratic National Convention, wrote to President Kennedy to determine Kennedy's position on civil rights.

TITLE OF ARTICLE	REFERENCE	SEARCH SLIP PAGE NUMBER
"Connor Seeks Stand On Segregation"	62-101087-A "Birmingham News" 6/16/59	(9)
"Connor Asks Negro Pastor to Take Lie Test in Bombing"	62-101087-5-A "Birmingham News" 6/3/58, p. 1	(10)

(continued on next page)

(continued)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

TITLE OF ARTICLE	REFERENCE	SEARCH SLIP PAGE NUMBER
"Shuttlesworth Returns Challenge of Connor"	62-101087-5-A "Birmingham Post- Herald" 6/4/58 p. 1	(10)✓
"Connor Rejects Lie Test Challenge"	62-101087-5-A "Birmingham Post- Herald" 6/5/58	(10)✓
"Alabamians Denounce Court Edict"	62-101087-5-A "Birmingham Post- Herald" 9/13/58	(10)✓
"Connor Asks Negro Leaders To Halt Park Mixing Efforts"	62-101087-5-A "Birmingham News" 10/25/59	(10)✓
"Connor Called Irksome, Ex-Jerseyite Praised"	62-101087-5-A "Birmingham News" 11/2/59	(37)✓

The 12/21/59 issue of the "Birmingham News" carried an article entitled "Connor Says Bus Circulars Are Dangerous." According to this article, Police Commissioner Connor branded as dangerous circulars which had been distributed in Birmingham urging Negro citizens to "ride desegregated" on city buses.

44-11124-A "Birmingham News" 12/21/59
(3)✓

(b7c)
b2D
On 3/31/60, [REDACTED]

The 4/15/60 issue of the "Birmingham News" reported on a speech given at Selma, Alabama on 4/14/60 by Connor. This speech was in regard to segregation.

(continued on next page)

brh

-21-

(continued)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

The above issue of the "Birmingham News" indicated that Connor had called two articles written by Harrison Salisbury which appeared in the "NY Times" and reprinted in the 4/14/60 and 4/15/60 issues of the "Birmingham Post-Herald", as a cheap attempt to smear Birmingham.

157-4-4-1 encl. p. 5,7
(16)

Joseph O'Meara, dean of Notre Dame Law School, Indiana (94-1-658) forwarded a copy of his introductory remarks made at the Law Honor Banquet of Notre Dame Law School on 4/29/60. These introductory remarks contained strong criticism of Commissioner Eugene "Bull" Connor, Birmingham, Alabama. O'Meara described Birmingham as a "police state" and specifically alleged that Connor's gestapo terrorized the Negro population and all who sought to befriend them.

94-1-658-489 encl. p. 2,3
(11,29)

(B7C)
(B2D)



105-66233-436 p. 1
(15)

(B7C)

This reference is a letter dated 8/1/60 from Eugene "Bull" Connor, Commissioner of Public Safety, Birmingham, advising that (1-9248) had accepted Mr. Hoover's invitation to attend the Session of the FBI National Academy beginning

1-9248-12 p. 1
(2,22)

brh

-22-


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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

The 9/17/60 issue of the "Pittsburgh Courier" carried an article captioned "B'ham Cop Chiefs Hit With Suit". According to this article a suit had been filed against Police Commissioner Eugene "Bull" Connor by the Reverend Fred Shuttlesworth and the Reverend Charles Billips who sought to have the Birmingham police heads desist from sending officers to meetings held by the Alabama Christian Movement for Human Rights (105-48948). The suit asked that officers be halted from intimidating the people. This organization was headed by the Reverend Shuttlesworth.

105-48948-A "Pittsburgh Courier"
(38) 9/17/60

(B7C)
(B7D)



Photostat enclosed
100-7801-41-2 Encl. p. 10
(30)

The 11/15/60 issue of the "Birmingham News" carried an article captioned "Connor Flays Court, N.O. Integration" which was in regard to School Integration Matters, New Orleans (157-4-33). Connor was critical of the federal government and the Supreme Court decision concerning integration.

157-4-33-A "Birmingham News"
(16,32) 11/15/60

) The 12/6/60 issue of the "Montgomery Advertiser," Montgomery, Alabama, in an article captioned "Integration Ruling Gets Tight-Lipped Reception," stated that Birmingham City Commissioner Eugene "Bull" Connor who was also Alabama's Democratic National Committeeman, had stated that "as long as we've got segregation laws on the books in Birmingham, we're going to continue to enforce them. This is just another case of the Supreme Court meddling in our local affairs."

Clipping enclosed
157-6-61-42 p. 1
(18,33)

CONFIDENTIAL

(B7D) On 2/17/61, Eugene Bull Connor, who was running for re-election as Police Commissioner, Birmingham, spoke at a meeting of the Jefferson County, Alabama, Citizens Council, in the interests of his candidacy.

[REDACTED]

62-33051-190X1 p. 1
(15,31)

(B3) This reference, captioned "Freedom Ride-1961" (100-225892) set forth information concerning toll calls obtained pursuant to subpoena duces tecum served on Charles D. Price, General Commercial Manager of the Southern Bell Telephone Company, Birmingham, on 5/26/61, for defendants in injunction complaint in Birmingham. This information revealed [REDACTED]

100-225892-385 p. 2,16,17,18
(36)

(B7C)
(B7D) [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

5/3/61. This information was furnished by Birmingham report dated

52-76399-1 p. 1,9
(4,23)

An informant of the Birmingham Office (not identified) advised that [REDACTED]

It was noted [REDACTED]

The above information was set out in Bureau memo dated 5/5/61.

62-33051-190X p. 1,2
(7,26)✓

The Birmingham Office forwarded a copy of a letter addressed to Eugene (Bull) Connor, Police Commissioner, Birmingham, Alabama, which had been received by the "Birmingham News." This letter, signed "An organization dedicated to freedom" was postmarked at Washington, D.C. on 5/16/61 and accused Connor of failure to enforce the law with equality toward all races. This letter was critical of Connor concerning a racial incident which happened on 5/14/61.

The Birmingham Office recommended that no investigation be conducted.

Copy of letter enclosed
9-0-4300 Encl. p. 1
(2,23)✓
SI 9-0-4305 p. 1
(2,23)✓

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

The following references contain information concerning the arrival of members of the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE) at the Birmingham Bus Station on 5/14/61. Information was set out concerning the activities of Police Commissioner Eugene Connor in handling matters pertaining to this group, also known as Freedom Riders.

Connor was alleged to have encouraged members of the KKK to use violence against the Negroes when they arrived at the bus station, and he was reported to have stated that if a Klansman were arrested for so doing he would receive a light sentence.

On the morning of 5/14/61, a telegram was sent to Connor demanding protection for riders of the Greyhound Bus due to arrive in Birmingham at 11:00 A.M. that day. Later in the day the bus was burned at Anniston, Alabama before it reached Birmingham. Connor was reported to have remained at City Hall in Birmingham all day on 5/14/61.

REFERENCE	SEARCH SLIP PAGE NUMBER
100-225892-232 encl. p. 1,2 -238 p. 1	(14,30) (30)
157-227-43 p. 19,20	(18,33)
149-1684-32 p. 5 -84 p. 405,413,420,429,433, 459	(37) (16,32)

The following references contain information concerning the arrival in Birmingham, on 5/17/61, of members of the National Non-Violent Freedom committee. Many of these individuals, also known as the "Freedom Riders," were arrested after their arrival at the Greyhound bus station and placed in the Birmingham jail. Information was set out concerning the activities of Eugene "Bull" Connor, as Police Commissioner, in handling this situation. CONFIDENTIAL

It was reported that at about midnight or early morning of 5/19/61, Connor released these individuals from jail and had them transported to the Alabama State line.

On 5/24/61, the Justice Department petitioned the U.S. District Court, Middle District of Alabama to include Connor and other Alabama public officials as defendants in a temporary injunction, previously obtained, which restrained certain organizations from interfering with the "Freedom Riders." Connor was charged with failing to provide police protection for persons traveling in interstate commerce through Birmingham, Alabama. At hearing held in the above court at Montgomery, Alabama, on 5/29/61-6/2/61, Connor was released from the injunction on termination of government testimony.

REFERENCE

SEARCH SLIP PAGE NUMBER

157-373-5 p. 2	(19,33)✓
6 p. 1	(19,34)✓
7 p. 2	(19)✓
9 p. 2	(19,34)✓
71 p. 1	(34)✓
88 p. 1,2,3	(35)✓
175 p. 2	(34)✓
264 p. 1A,11,12	(19)✓
316 p. 1	(19,34)✓
341 p. 1,3	(19,36)✓
346 p. 4,6,7,13	(36)✓
-A "Birmingham Post-Herald," 5/30/61	(19)✓
100-225892-322 encl. p. 7,8	(14,30)✓

The Birmingham Office forwarded an article from the 6/27/61 issue of the "Birmingham Post-Herald" entitled "Connor Offers Southern 'Manifesto' Suggesting Old Laws Be Enforced." Also forwarded was an article from the 6/27/61 issue of the "Birmingham News" entitled "Connor Lashes RFK, Marshals". These articles were in regard to a speech made before the Alabama Sheriffs' and Peace Officers' Convention, at Birmingham on 6/26/61, by Commissioner Eugene "Bull" Connor.

(continued on next page)

(continued)

CONFIDENTIAL
The "Post Herald" article reported that Connor said "that as long as Robert Kennedy is using the FBI to prosecute the peace officers of the city of Birmingham....they need not expect the PD of Birmingham to continue our policy of cooperation and assistance to them. If they have no confidence in us, it is just human nature that we have no confidence in them."

The Birmingham Office noted that the Birmingham PD had been cooperative with that office in the past, and that it was not known whether the statement made by Connor was a new policy. It was further noted that since the above mentioned speech, contact had been made with the Birmingham PD with respect to investigations in certain cases and that no indication was given that they would not cooperate with the Bureau.

Above articles enclosed
94-1-651-319 p. 1, Encl. p. 1-4
(11,28)

(The 8/25/61 issue of the "Birmingham News" carried an article entitled "Connor Behind Bill Banning Rides" which stated that Birmingham's Commissioner Eugene Connor was the man back of the bill outlawing "freedom rides" in Alabama which was passed unanimously by the Alabama House and Senate, and signed into law on 8/25/61.

157-387-A "Birmingham News"
(19) 8/25/61

The 9/9/61 issue of the "Birmingham News" carried an article entitled "Officials Fire Fast Denial at Charges" which stated that Commissioner Eugene "Bull" Connor denied charges that the Birmingham PD was guilty of brutality against Negroes. Connor stated he would welcome an investigation of these charges.

44-0-A "Birmingham News"
13,23 9/9/61 p. 1

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

On 12/17/62, the SAC of the Birmingham Office met with Public Safety Commissioner Eugene "Bull" Connor and his top ranking officers concerning the progress in the case of the bombing of Bethel Baptist Church, Birmingham, on 12/14/62 (157-762). Connor stated that he wanted to do everything possible to solve this case and had ordered a sweeping inquiry to include both white and Negro suspects. He ordered his officers to fully explore the possibility that any individuals known to have been active in "KlK matters" might have had anything to do with the bombing.

157-762-89 Encl. p. 1,2,7
(20,34)

The following references in the file captioned "Top Hoodlum Program" (62-9) contain detailed information concerning Eugene "Bull" Connor, Commissioner of Public Safety, Birmingham PD, during the period from 1958 to 1963.

The Birmingham Office advised that Connor had been cooperative with that office and had conducted extensive investigations concerning bombings in the Birmingham area.

83) per
TR5

[REDACTED]

Information was furnished concerning accusations against Connor's character as well as accusations that he had stated to the operator of a club in Birmingham that he would be advised of the next raid on the club.

REFERENCE

SEARCH SLIP PAGE NUMBER

62-9-4-63 p. 3,10,12,13
-89 p. 14-17
-91 p. 2
-101 p. 1,2
-173 p. 26-28

(4,23)
(39,40)
(4,23)
(4,24)
(4,24)

62-9-34-373 p. 215

(39,40)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

(continued)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

The above letter noted that there had been comments in the press that Connor would possibly run for Governor of Alabama in the next election.

62-33051-192 p. 1
(7,26)

Page 5 of the 3/19/62 issue of the "South" published at Auburn, Alabama by the Alabama News Magazine, Incorporated, carried an article entitled "Gubernatorial Openers Mild But Promise Slugging Later". This article stated that during the previous week Eugene "Bull" Connor, candidate for governor of Alabama, spoke at a rally held in a down-town theater in Birmingham. In this speech, Connor promised to "sic the Highway Patrol on any and all federal marshalls sent into Alabama in connection with racial matters." Connor spoke favorably in regard to old-age pensions and the advancement of education.

Publications-Alphabetical Section,
"South" 3/19/62, p. 5,6
(2,22)

This reference is a press release by the Washington Capital News Service dated 1/17/62 which stated that Police Commissioner Eugene "Bull" Connor announced that day that he would run for Governor of Alabama in the 5/1/62 Democratic primary. He indicated that the race issue would be in the fore of his campaign. Connor, a strong segregationist, said in a statement that Alabama "needs a governor in the coming four years whom the people can trust completely on this (race) issue. One who they know will do everything that can be done to stop the slaughter of the rights of the states to make and enforce their own laws on local issues."

62-33051-A Washington Capital
(7,26) News Service 1/17/62

(B7C
B7D) [REDACTED]
157-632-29 Encl. p. 1
(20)

A "Washington Capital News Service" release, issued on 12/9/61, stated that on 12/8/61, a suit was filed in Circuit Court, Birmingham by Eugene Connor against the Columbia Broadcasting System, for libel over a race relations telecast. This television program, broadcast on 5/18/61, dealt with race relations in Birmingham. Connor asked for \$500,000 for alleged defamation which he had suffered as a result of the program.

157-387-A Washington Capital News
(19) Service- 12/9/61

The following references in the file captioned "Testing of Bus Facilities Subsequent to 11/1/61" (157-452) contain information concerning the arrest of Ralph R. Sizemore, manager of the lunch room of the Greyhound Bus Station, Birmingham, on 11/3/61.

Sizemore was arrested on orders of Police Commissioner Eugene "Bull" Connor for allowing whites and Negroes to eat together in the lunch room in violation of a Birmingham segregation ordinance.

On 12/14/61, the U.S. Attorney filed a petition in US District Court naming the City of Birmingham together with Connor and other officials as defendants and enjoined them to cease from making further arrests in such cases.

On 12/20/61, Connor gave a release to the newspapers stating the text of a letter he had written to President Kennedy requesting an interview. According to the news release the President ignored Connor's letter.

SERIAL

SEARCH SLIP PAGE NUMBER

40 p. 1,2 (Director's notation)
60 Encl. p. 1
72 p. 1
107 p. 1
Sub A "Birmingham News" 12/20/61

(19,34)
(20,34)
(34)
(20,34)
(20)

By letter dated 10/17/61, the Birmingham Office advised that Commissioner Eugene "Bull" Connor had commented casually that he was considering running for Governor of Alabama in the 1962 election.

(continued on next page)

(b7c)

In October 1961, the Bureau was in contact with [redacted] Birmingham Police Department in connection with Civil Rights cases. [redacted] explained his reluctance in furnishing information from his files regarding these matters by stating that Commissioner Eugene "Bull" Connor had directed that such information or the Police Department files not be furnished to Bureau Agents in Civil Rights matters on a general basis. [redacted] explained that this policy had been brought about due to the fact that an increasing number of this type of case had arisen, and that it was the opinion of Connor that in practically all of these cases the complaints had been determined through investigation by the PD to be without foundation. [redacted] stated that it was Connor's opinion that many of these complaints had been instigated by Negro organizations such as the NAACP or the group led by Reverend Fred Shuttlesworth.

[redacted] advised that it was the policy of the PD under Connor's instructions to discourage officers in furnishing signed statements to Bureau Agents in view of the fact that the officers are in the position of any other defendants against whom offenses were charged or alleged by the Justice Department when an investigation was requested.

On 10/14/61, Connor [redacted] visited the Birmingham Office to offer assistance in a bank robbery investigation being conducted by the Birmingham Office. It was well known, however, that Connor was most outspoken against integration of the races.

It was noted by Agents in recent interviews with [redacted] in connection with Civil Rights matters that he had made statements indicating that Commissioner Connor had become more pronounced in his criticism of the FBI and the Justice Department in conducting Civil Rights investigations. It appeared that Connor's attitude may have resulted from injunction proceedings brought by the Justice Department against the Birmingham PD in connection with the "Freedom Riders" incident in Alabama.

44-18193-7 Encl. p. 1,2,3,7
(4,23)

The 11/17/61 issue of the "Birmingham News" carried an article captioned "Connor Proposes Dixie 'Manifesto'". This article stated that Connor had proposed a "manifesto for Southerners," which in effect called for equal application of certain laws for both white and Negro. This manifesto called for the Negro to assume the responsibilities attendant on the social and political equality which the Negro demanded.

44-0-1 "Birmingham News"
(3) 11/17/61

(37D)

CONFIDENTIAL

157-370-368 Encl. p. 1
(33)✓

The following references contain information concerning speeches given or scheduled to be given by Eugene "Bull" Connor before the following organizations, which were subjects of Bureau investigations. In 1956 Connor was a candidate for Birmingham City Commissioner and in the same year was elected delegate from Jefferson County, Alabama, to the National Democratic Convention. In 1961 he was a candidate for Birmingham Police Commissioner. Many of these speeches pertained to matters of segregation and appeared to be of a political nature in regard to his candidacy.

ORGANIZATION	DATE	REFERENCE	SEARCH SLIP PAGE NUMBER
Chilton County Citizens Council, Jemison, Alabama	early 1956	105-46593-1 p. 1	(15,31)✓
Lincoln Citizens Council, Lincoln Alabama	Late January 1956	105-47274-1	(15,31)
Roebuck White Citizens Council Birmingham, Alabama	2/28/56	105-45093-2 1,2	p. (15,31)✓
Citizens Council of Sylacauga, Alabama	3/2/56	105-45092-2 p. 2	✓(15,31)
Anniston Citizens Council, Anniston, Alabama	3/3/56	105-45103-2 p. 5	(31)✓
Citizens Council of Ashville, Alabama	3/8/56	105-45995-2 p. 1	(31)✓

(continued on next page)

CONFIDENTIAL

(continued)

ORGANIZATION	DATE	REFERENCE	SEARCH SLIP PAGE NUMBER
Citizens Council of Bayview, Alabama	3/10/56	105-48121-1 p. 1,2	(15,31)✓
Coosa County Citizens Council, Vincent, Alabama	4/4/56	105-51293-2 2,3	p. (15,31)✓
South Alabama Citizens Council (meeting held in Mobile, Alabama)	4/12/56	105-50596-3 p. 5	(15,31)✓
Coosa Valley Citizens Council, Vincent, Alabama	4/21/56	105-46429-2 p. 4	(31)✓
Citizens Council of North Birmingham, Alabama	5/4/56	105-45069-7 p. 2,3	(14,30)✓
Citizens Council of Linecomb, Alabama	September, 1956	105-45070-6 p. 1	(15)✓
Citizens Council of Montevallo, Alabama	9/18/56	105-46266-6 p. 1	(31)✓

The following references in the file captioned "Racial Conditions-Birmingham" set out information concerning the activities of Eugene "Bull" Connor, Birmingham Police Commissioner, in connection with racial matters.

SYNOPSIS OF INFORMATION

The 8/22/57 issue of the "Birmingham News," p. 1 carried an article entitled "Negroes Ask Mixed Schools" which stated that Connor, as Public Safety Commissioner, was automatically an ex-officio member of the school board and that he had said that the schools would not be integrated.

REFERENCE

100-135-4-216 Encl.
p. 3

SEARCH SLIP
PAGE NUMBER

(12)✓

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

(continued)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SYNOPSIS OF INFORMATION

REFERENCE

**SEARCH SLIP
PAGE NUMBER**

In regard to the attempted bombing of Temple Beth El, Birmingham, on 4/29/58, Connor revealed to reporters that fingerprints were found on a piece of cardboard placed on top of sticks of dynamite. Since this information was to have remained confidential it appeared that Connor may have been using resultant publicity to his own advantage.

100-135-4-290 p. 1

(12)✓

Article captioned "Fla. Union Chief Gets Death Threat; Dynamite Found in Alabama Temple" reported that Connor called for the death sentence for bombers and had stated that the bombing attempts in Birmingham appeared to be part of an "interstate conspiracy."

100-135-4-Sub A
"NY Post" 4/29/58
p. 2

(12)✓

Article, captioned "Ministers Appeal for Big Reward to Catch Bombers," stated that Connor had announced plans to meet with officials of Nashville, Tennessee, and Jacksonville and Miami, Florida, to discuss the recent bombings. Connor was asking the FBI to enter the case because of the possibility that persons outside the state might be involved.

100-135-4-Sub A,
"Birmingham News"
4/30/58, p. 1

(13)✓

Article captioned "Police Await Bombing Tests," stated that Connor was to attend a meeting in Jacksonville, Florida, with officers from other cities which had been similarly attacked.

100-135-4-Sub A
"Birmingham News"
5/2/58, p. 1

(13)✓

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(continued)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SYNOPSIS OF INFORMATION

REFERENCE

**SEARCH SLIP
PAGE NUMBER**

Article captioned "Police Have Fingerprints in Temple Bomb Case," stated that Connor revealed that the individual who attempted to blow up the Temple Beth-El, left behind a good set of fingerprints. Connor believed that a reward should be offered for the bomber.

100-135-4-Sub A
"Birmingham News"
5/4/58, p. 1

(13) ✓

Article captioned "Bombing Probe Produces Prints", stated that Connor had announced that some progress along the line of checking out the fingerprints had been made.

100-135-4-Sub A
"Birmingham Post-Herald" 5/6/58, p. 1

(13) ✓

Article captioned "Synagogue Bomb Probe Continues," reported that Connor had stated that the PD was continuing their investigation of the bombing of the synagogue.

100-135-4-Sub A
"Birmingham Post-Herald" 5/9/58

(13) ✓

Article captioned "Swap Lie-Test Challenges On Alabama Bombing," stated that Connor challenged the Reverend Fred L. Shuttlesworth to take a lie-detector test in regard to the bombing of his home and church in 1956. Shuttlesworth agreed to submit to such a test if Connor would do likewise.

100-135-4 Sub-A
"NY Post" 6/4/58 p. 3

(29) ✓

Pertaining to the relationship, as of 7/22/58, existing between Connor and the Bureau in connection with the handling of bombings and other matters in Birmingham. Director's notation.

100-135-4-368 Enc1.
p. 1-3

(36) ✓

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(continued)

SYNOPSIS OF INFORMATION

REFERENCE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
SEARCH SLIP
PAGE NUMBER

A summary of information dated 7/24/58, taken from Bureau files, set out background information concerning Connor. The Birmingham Office was being instructed to hold contacts with Connor to a minimum in view of his unsavory background and due to the fact that he was attempting to unload his investigative responsibilities, in connection with bombings, on the Bureau. Director's notation.

100-135-4-365 p. 1-3

(1,21)

By memo dated 7/29/58, the AG thanked the Bureau for background information on Connor. Mention was made of a visit by Connor to the Justice Department on 7/21/58.

100-135-4-364 p. 1

(12,29)

Article captioned "Cops Raid Bombed Church, Squeeze Guns," stated that the Reverend Shuttlesworth had written a letter to Connor charging that the twice-bombed Bethel Baptist Church in Birmingham was not receiving proper protection from the PD.

100-135-4-Sub A
"NY Courier" 8/23/58,
p. 3

(39,41)

The 9/3/58 issue of the "Birmingham News" carried an article which quoted Connor as warning "outsiders" to stay away from city schools. This article went on to name three individuals who had been loitering near a school in Birmingham.

100-135-4-391 Encl. p. (12)
1

(continued on next page)

(continued)

SYNOPSIS OF INFORMATION

REFERENCE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
**SEARCH SLIP
PAGE NUMBER**

Article captioned "Shuttlesworth Demands Integrated Park System," stated that Shuttlesworth had sent a telegram to Connor calling for an end of segregation in public recreational facilities.

100-135-4-Sub A
"Birmingham Post-
Herald 10/23/58
no page

(13)✓

Article captioned "New Arrests Threatened In Alabama," stated that Connor had said that any one attempting to organize or aid a boycott of buses in Birmingham would be arrested.

100-135-4-Sub A
"NY Herald Tribune"
11/15/58, p. 1

(13)✓

Article captioned "Victory is Seen for States Rights," stated that Connor commended the Supreme Court's decision upholding the Alabama school placement law.

100-135-4-Sub A
"Birmingham Post-
Herald", 11/25/58,
p. 1

(13,29)✓

The following references in the file captioned "Racial Matters, Birmingham" contain information pertaining to Eugene "Bull" Connor Police Commissioner, Birmingham PD.

SYNOPSIS OF INFORMATION

REFERENCE

**SEARCH SLIP
PAGE NUMBER**

In 1960, Connor was named as a co-defendant in a suit which sought to reorganize the Birmingham school system on a non-racial basis. Connor was Commissioner of Public Safety and Commissioner of Education.

157-6-4-21 Encl. p. 1

(16)✓

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SYNOPSIS OF INFORMATION

REFERENCE

SEARCH SLIP
PAGE NUMBER

As a candidate for Democratic National Committeeman, Connor received 4 votes out of 517 votes cast in a virtually 100% Negro box located in precinct 9, District 1. In a nearby box with a not so large Negro majority, Connor received 219 votes and his opponent received 542.

157-6-4-Sub A
"Birmingham News"
5/5/60, p. 1

(17)✓

After the ruling made by the Supreme Court on 12/5/60 that restaurants in inter-state bus terminals could not refuse to serve Negroes making journeys across state lines, Connor was reported to say that he would continue to fight to keep restaurants and other facilities around bus and train stations segregated. (Other information same as above)

157-6-4-83 Encl. p. 2,3 (16,32)✓

(b7c) It was reported that on 12/11/60, Connor stated to [REDACTED]

157-6-4-79 Encl. p. 1 (16,32)✓

[REDACTED] that they had better wake up, that the sit-in at the bus terminal had to be completely handled by local law enforcement officers. [REDACTED] did not indicate that Connor had requested assistance by the KKK.

The 10/25/61 issue of the "Birmingham Post-Herald" carried an article which indicated that Connor would close the City parks and playgrounds before he would desegregate them.

157-6-4-217 Encl. p. 1, (16,32)✓
2

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SYNOPSIS OF INFORMATION

REFERENCE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ SEARCH SLIP
PAGE NUMBER

On 11/3/61, Connor stated that the federal court order integrating Birmingham recreation facilities could mean that Negro as well as white parks could be closed.

157-6-4-Sub A
"Birmingham News"
11/3/61, p. 1

(18)✓

In January 1962, the SAC at Birmingham contacted Connor at which time Connor stated that they just weren't going to picket in Birmingham and indicated that if an attempt was made to do so he would have more dogs there than they would see at a dog pound.

157-6-4-263 p. 1

(16,32)✓

In early March, 1962, Connor began his statewide campaign as candidate for Governor of Alabama by speaking at a rally held in Birmingham.

157-6-4-Sub A
"Birmingham News"
3/9/62

(18)✓

On 4/3/62, Connor stated that Byron (Whizzer) White was put on the Supreme Court "To punish the South." Connor was critical of White for his part in the "Freedom Rider" Crisis in Montgomery, Ala.

157-6-4-Sub A
"Birmingham Post-Herald" 4/4/62

(18)✓

Information set out concerning Connor's candidacy for Governor of Alabama.

157-6-4-Sub A
"NY Herald Tribune"
4/8/62

(18)✓

The 4/8/62 issue of the "Birmingham News" carried an article concerning the candidacy of Connor for Governor of Alabama.

157-6-4-323 Enc1. p. 1 (16,32)✓

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SYNOPSIS OF INFORMATION

REFERENCE

SEARCH SLIP
PAGE NUMBER

An editorial in the "Washington Post" captioned "Birmingham Discrimination" stated that the Birmingham Commission, led by Connor, had voted to withdraw support from the county program of surplus food for the needy. It was estimated that 95% of the persons receiving surplus food were Negroes.

157-6-4-Sub A
"Washington Post"
4/11/62 p. A-18

✓(18,33)✓

At a meeting held in Birmingham on 6/11/62, by the Christian Movement for Human Rights, it was announced that Connor planned to resign as Police Commissioner of Birmingham.

157-6-4-391 Encl. p. 1 (17)✓

On 7/19/62, at a meeting of the KKK in Birmingham it was stated that many prominent people shared the feeling of the KKK that the Negroes were making too rapid progress in their efforts to integrate and that city officials, including Connor, were tired of the way things were going in the racial situation in Birmingham but that their hands were tied.

157-6-4-416 Encl. p. 3 (17,32)✓

The Southern Christian Leadership Conference planned to hold a meeting in Birmingham on September 25-28, 62. An official of this organization planned to call AAG Marshall possibly on 9/19/62 and ask him to get FBI Agents assigned to be present near the scene of the meeting in view of the fact that Connor had cancelled press passes of newspaper reporters and planned to rope off an area around the meeting.

157-6-4-440 Encl. p. (17)✓
1,2

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SYNOPSIS OF INFORMATION

REFERENCE

**SEARCH SLIP
PAGE NUMBER**

The 3/9/62 issue of the "Birmingham News" printed an article concerning the opening speech given by Connor, as candidate for Governor of Alabama. Connor spoke on segregation.

157-6-4-304 Encl. p. 2 (16)✓

Information set out concerning plans by Connor, candidate for Mayor of Birmingham, to incite and then quash a "race riot" in the Birmingham area just prior to the run-off election on 4/2/63. Also prior to the election the individuals responsible for the bombing of the Bethel Baptist Church in Birmingham were to be arrested. These arrests were to be afforded television and newspaper coverage and were expected to enhance the prestige of Connor in the election.

157-6-4-504 Encl. p. 1 (17,32)✓

Same information as above

157-6-4-508 Encl.
p. 1,2

(17,32)✓

In an election, held on 4/3/63 in Birmingham, Connor was ousted as Police Commissioner.

157-6-4-Sub A
"Washington Post
Times Herald,"
4/4/63

(18,33)✓

On 4/6/63, Connor advised that he had received a telegram from the Reverend Fred L. Shuttlesworth stating that a group would accompany Shuttlesworth to City Hall in Birmingham for a prayer session. Connor advised that he sent Shuttlesworth a wire advising him not to come. Connor also furnished details concerning arrests made of members of this group after their arrival.

157-6-4-523 p. 1,2,3 (17,32)✓

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SYNOPSIS OF INFORMATION

REFERENCE

SEARCH SLIP
PAGE NUMBER

On 4/8/63, Connor advised concerning racial situation in Birmingham.

157-6-4-555 p. 1,2,3

(17,33)✓

On 4/9/63, Connor left Birmingham, reportedly to meet with Governor George Wallace, and Wallace was to issue some statement.

157-6-4-557 p. 1

(17,33)✓

Same information as above.

157-6-4-558 p. 2

(17,33)

The 4/9/63 issue of the "Birmingham News" carried an article which indicated that Connor had consulted with Governor Wallace regarding the racial issue.

157-6-4-573 p. 2

(17,33)

Same information as above.

157-6-4-575 p. 1

(16,33)

News articles in the Birmingham press indicated that the newly elected Mayor of Birmingham and his council took office in an atmosphere of conflict over whether the Council or the City Commission was in legal control. Connor and other members of the Commission claimed they had the right to serve until 1965.

157-6-4-623 p. 2

(17,33)

The following references in the file captioned "Police Department, Birmingham, Alabama" contain information pertaining to Eugene "Bull" Connor, Commissioner of Public Safety, Birmingham, Alabama. There was contact between Commissioner Connor and the Bureau on numerous occasions in regard to various police matters, police training and invitations to Bureau representatives to speak in Birmingham. According to the Birmingham Office Connor was cooperative to the fullest extent.

(continued on next page)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

(continued)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Information was also set out concerning Connor's activities as Police Commissioner, in combatting communism in Birmingham.

At various times charges or accusations were made concerning Connor's moral character and at one time he was arrested along with his secretary on a morals charge.

Connor requested the Bureau, on a confidential basis, to suggest someone to conduct a probe of the Birmingham Police Department and was advised that the Bureau was in no position to do this.

REFERENCE

SEARCH SLIP PAGE NUMBER

62-33051-35 p. 1	✓(4,24)
-36 p. 1,2	✓(4,24)
-55 p. 1,2	✓(5)
-56 p. 1,2,3	✓(5,24)
-66 p. 1	✓(5)
-69 p. 1	✓(5,24)
-69X p. 1	✓(5,24)
-74 p. 1	✓(5,24)
-76 p. 1	✓(5,24)
-77 p. 1	✓(5,24)
-79 p. 1	✓(40)
-79X p. 1	✓(39,40)
-82 p. 1	✓(5,24)
-99 p. 1,3,4, Encl. p. 1	✓(5,25)
-102 p. 1	✓(5,25)
-103 p. 1,2	✓(5,25)
-122 p. 1,2	✓(6,25)
-123 p. 1	✓(6,25)
-125 p. 1	✓(6,25)
-126 p. 1,2	✓(25)
-136 p. 1	✓(6)
-143 p. 1,2, Encl. p. 2,3,5	✓(6,25)
-144 p. 1,2	✓(35)
-145 p. 1,2	✓(35)
-146 p. 1	✓(35)
-153 p. 1	✓(6,25)
-154 p. 1	✓(6,25)
-159 p. 1	✓(6,25)
-165 p. 1, Encl. p. 2 (Director's notation)	✓(6,25)
-166 p. 3,4	✓(6,26)
-181 p. 1	✓(6)
-Sub A "Birmingham Post" 5/13/41	✓(7)
-Sub A "Birmingham News" 12/20/58	✓(7,26)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

The following references in the file captioned "General Investigative Intelligence File, Birmingham", contain information concerning the activities of Eugene "Bull" Connor, Commissioner of Public Safety, Birmingham PD. ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SYNOPSIS OF INFORMATION	REFERENCE	SEARCH SLIP PAGE NUMBER
As of 1945, there was no information to indicate that Connor was tied up with organized crime.	62-75147-4-10 p. 6,7 and enclosures	✓(7,26)✓
Information same as above. (1949)	62-75147-4-38 p. 8	✓(7,26)✓
In 1950, Connor was a candidate for Governor of Alabama.	62-75147-4-41 Encl. p. 6	✓(7,26)✓
Information concerning Connor's fight against lottery operators and his activities in respect to having laws revised and strengthened as pertained to the control of criminals. (1951)	62-75147-4-47 p. 1,2	✓(8,27)✓
Information concerning Connor's intensive campaign, in 1951, against various numbers rackets and crime.	62-75147-4-54, Encl. p. 1,8,11	✓(8,27)✓
Information concerning Connor's trial in January 1952 after being found in a hotel room in Birmingham with his secretary.	62-75147-4-57 p. 1,3, 6,7,8	✓(8,40)✓
Connor was tried January 4,5 and 7, 1952 before the Birmingham Police Court. During the course of the trial, wherein he was charged with joint occupancy of a hotel room with a woman other than his wife, a great deal of testimony was brought out as to allegations of dishonesty and corruption in the Birmingham PD. Enclosed were numerous clippings from Birmingham newspapers reflecting testimony given.	62-75147-4-56 p. 1 Encl. p. 1-14,16-28	✓(8,27)✓

(continued on next page)

(continued)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SYNOPSIS OF INFORMATION

REFERENCE

SEARCH SLIP
PAGE NUMBER

This reference listed several Birmingham newspapers dated in early 1952 which carried articles critical of Connor as Police Commissioner.

62-75147-4-63 p. 1,2 (8,27)

Information concerning above trial set out. As the result of this trial Connor was fined \$100 and received a suspended sentence of 180 days in the city prison.

62-75147-4-59 p. 1,9, (8)
10,11,13,14,15

Information also set out concerning Connor's relationship with other members of the Birmingham PD. As of January 1952, there was an indication that a recall petition would be floated in the City of Birmingham requesting an election for the purpose of recalling Connor from his position as Police Commissioner in view of his conviction on a morals charge. Pressure was being put on Connor to cause him to resign without the necessity of a recall vote.

62-75147-4-60 p. 1-4 (39,40)

(b7c) [REDACTED]
Darnell was the detective who precipitated the arrest of Connor on the morals charge.

Situation, as of February 1952, in the Birmingham PD, arising out of arrest of Connor.

62-75147-4-61 p. 1 (8,27)

(continued on next page)

(continued)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SYNOPSIS OF INFORMATION

REFERENCE

SEARCH SLIP
PAGE NUMBER

Enclosed with this reference are numerous articles which appeared in February 1952 issues of Birmingham newspapers in regard to activities of Connor as Commissioner of Public Safety in the Birmingham PD. These articles reported information critical of Connor.

62-75147-4-64 p. 1,2 ✓(8,27)

The 2/8/52 issue of the "Birmingham News" carried an article entitled "Impeachment of Connor Asked By Grand Jury."

62-75147-4-A
"Birmingham News,"
2/8/52, p. 1

✓(9,28,37)

Enclosed with this reference are two articles which appeared in the March 1952 issues of Birmingham newspapers which reflected the status of proceedings instituted against Connor. Forty-eight witnesses had been summoned for the impeachment trial of Connor against whom morals charges had been brought.

62-75147-4-65 p. 1
and enclosures

✓(8,27)

(continued on next page)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

(continued)

SYNOPSIS OF INFORMATION

An Alabama State Grand Jury conducted an investigation of the Birmingham PD particularly with reference to Eugene Connor and recommended that he be impeached on grounds that he was morally unfit for the position, that he was corrupt in office, and that he was incompetent. These charges were brought before the judge on 3/25/52 at which time the morals charge was dismissed. At that time this case was expected to come to trial in the near future. Numerous articles appearing in Birmingham newspapers are enclosed with this reference.

Detailed information is set out concerning efforts to impeach Connor on grounds of moral turpitude, corruption and incompetency in office. Efforts were made to restore the morals charges against Connor which had previously been ruled out. Enclosed with this reference are numerous articles relating to this matter, which appeared in the March and April 1952 issue of Birmingham newspapers.

REFERENCE

62-75147-4-66 p. 1,2 (8,27) and enclosures

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
**SEARCH SLIP
PAGE NUMBER**

62-75147-4-68 p. 1,2,3 (8,27)

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(continued)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SYNOPSIS OF INFORMATION

REFERENCE

SEARCH SLIP
PAGE NUMBER

Detailed information was set out concerning matters relating to the arrest of Connor and his secretary Miss Christina Brown, on 12/21/51. This arrest resulted in the Birmingham Recorders Court finding Connor guilty. Connor appealed his conviction to the County Circuit Court, was tried and convicted. He then appealed to the State Appellate Court and received a favorable ruling. Impeachment proceedings were then brought against Connor resulting in a mistrial. As of July 1952, the case had not been brought up for trial a second time.

62-75147-4-74 Encl.
p. 5,6

✓(8,27)

Detailed information is set out concerning the controversy centering around Connor as Police Commissioner. Impeachment proceedings against Connor were set for trial in the Circuit Court to be held on 10/13/52.

62-75147-4-78 p. 1,2,3 (9)

(continued on next page)

(continued)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SYNOPSIS OF INFORMATION

REFERENCE

SEARCH SLIP
PAGE NUMBER

62-75147-4-80 p. 1,2 (9)

B3 per IRS

62-75147-4-83 p. 1 (9)
outgoing letter p. 1

In late December 1952, Connor's secretary Miss Brown, filed suit in US District Court, Alabama, against certain newspapers in Birmingham and the X Corporation claiming that they had published reports which damaged her reputation.

62-75147-4-88 p. 2 (9)

(continued on next page)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

(continued)

SYNOPSIS OF INFORMATION

REFERENCE

SEARCH SLIP
PAGE NUMBER

[REDACTED]

62-75147-4-85 p. 1

✓(9)

B3 per IRS

Detailed information is set out regarding the disrupted conditions in the Birmingham PD and the poor relationship existing between Connor and various members of the PD. (January 1953)

62-75147-4-90 Encl. p. (9,27)
6-9

The 3/1/53 issue of the "Birmingham News" carried an article captioned "Connor Bows Out of Commission Race As Late Qualifiers Rush In."

62-75147-4-97 p. 1
enclosures

✓(9,27)

This article outlined a speech made by Connor on 2/28/53 over the radio, advising that he did not contemplate running to succeed himself as Commissioner in the City of Birmingham.

As of July 1954, Sheriff Holt McDowell had recently received the democratic nomination for Sheriff of Jefferson County, Alabama, having defeated Connor, former Police Commissioner, Birmingham.

62-75147-4-108 p.
6,13

✓(9,28)

It was noted that many of the charges and counter-charges concerning Connor and the Birmingham PD, about three years previously had centered around [REDACTED]

(B7C)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)



PSC CANDIDATE—Birmingham's Eugene (Bull) Connor, may try for the head of the Public Service Commission.

Connor Eyes PSC Post

Former Public Safety Commissioner Eugene (Bull) Connor said last night he was "seriously considering" running for the president of the State Public Service Commission.

He would oppose incumbent C. C. (Jack) Owen and possibly former Gov. James Folsom, who has filled out papers to enter the race but has not filed them yet.

Connor, who has been out of public life since the change in the form of Birmingham city government last Spring, has been the subject of many and varied rumors.

Connor last night denied he was considering running as an independent or any kind of a candidate for Congress, declaring if he were to run, there was no need to run as an independent.

As for a state job, specifically director of the new state sovereignty commission, Connor said he has not been offered any job by the state and he had not asked for one.

Still another report Connor took issue with was running for mayor of Birmingham after the city government has been changed back to the commission form.

"I haven't heard anything about changing the form of government," declared Connor. A group is collecting petitions to call an election.

Mr. Belmont _____
Mr. Mohr _____
Mr. Casper _____
Mr. Callahan _____
Mr. Conrad _____
Mr. DeLoach _____
Mr. Evans _____
Mr. Gale _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Sullivan _____
Mr. Tavel _____
Mr. Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Miss Holmes _____
Miss Gandy _____

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

THE BIRMINGHAM NEWS

3 THE BIRMINGHAM POST-HERALD

BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA

Date: 2/5/64
Edition: FINAL
Author:
Editor:
Title: EUGENE CONNOR

Character:
or
Classification: BIRMINGHAM
Submitting Office:
☐ Being Investigated

1157-1203-4
NOT RECORDED
128 FEB 19 1964

57 FEB 20 1964

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Reporting Office BIRMINGHAM	Office of Origin BIRMINGHAM	Date 8/14/58	Investigative Period 8/13/58
TITLE OF CASE EUGENE "BULL" CONNOR, Birmingham Police Commissioner; Assistant Chief of Police J. C. LANCE and Unidentified Officers of Birmingham Police Department. Reverend F. L. SHUTTLESWORTH; JAMES REVIS; LEVI KEMP; CHARLIE BROOKS - VICTIMS.		Report made by [REDACTED] (379)	Typed by MFL
		CHARACTER OF CASE CIVIL RIGHTS	

Synopsis:

On 8-12-58, Birmingham Office received special delivery registered letter dated 8-12-58 from Rev. F. L. SHUTTLESWORTH, pastor of Bethel Baptist Church, 3191 - 29th Avenue North, Birmingham. SHUTTLESWORTH enclosed copies of other letters sent to public officials concerning alleged lack of proper police protection and "certain other acts which are violative of our rights to be secure in our persons, houses and possessions." SHUTTLESWORTH requests that "you at least look into this problem of improper protection and other problems mentioned in the letter. We urge you to conduct a speedy investigation." SHUTTLESWORTH furnished copy of his letter to Police Commissioner EUGENE CONNOR, Birmingham, in which he complained of specific acts of the Birmingham Police Department, such as the removing of guns from the Bethel Baptist Church which were being used to guard the property.

- C -

Approved <i>[Signature]</i>	Special Agent In Charge	Do not write in spaces below	
Copies made: 2 - Bureau 1 - USA, Birmingham 1 - Birmingham (44-550)		44-13501-3	REC-59
		21 11 AUG 16 1958	EX-140
		STAT. SECT.	

1cc: AAG Civil Rights Division
Form 6-94
8/26/58

7 AUG 26 1958

This report is loaned to you by the FBI, and neither it nor its contents are to be distributed outside the agency to which loaned.

DETAILS:

On August 12, 1958, the Birmingham Office received a special delivery registered letter (return receipt requested) from Reverend F. L. SHUTTLESWORTH, pastor of the Bethel Baptist Church, 3191 - 29th Avenue North, Birmingham, Alabama. This letter was postmarked Birmingham, Alabama, August 12, 1958, addressed to the "F.B.I. Local Agency, American Life Building, Birmingham, Alabama." Reverend SHUTTLESWORTH's letter is as follows:

"Enclosed are copies of letters sent to the Commissioner of Public Safety and [REDACTED] (b7c) concerning the lack of proper Police Protection and certain other acts which are violative of our rights to be secure in our persons, houses and possessions. Some of the persons mention in the statement have been arrested, some even twice, and held on trumped up charges. As I write these things continue.

"We are asking that you at least look into this problem of improper protection and other problems mentioned in the letter. We urge you to conduct a speedy investigation.

"Sincerely yours,
"/s/ Rev. F L. SHUTTLESWORTH
"/t/ Rev. F. L. Shuttlesworth, Pastor
Bethel Baptist Church
President, Alabama Christian Movement for Human Rights"

(b7c)

(b7c)



The following is Reverend SEUTTLESWORTH's
letter to Police Commissioner EUGENE CONNOR:

"Circumstances dictate that I write you and protest as strenuously as possible the repeated actions of the Police Department under your direction, in continuing to needlessly harass us and interfere as we try to prevent our Church and Parsonage from being bombed for a third time. It is common knowledge that the threats and bombings have continued in this spot since 1956. Being refused police protection by the Police Department, we have had to voluntarily guard this property ourselves. And since the building of the New Parsonage July, 1957, the Department knows that we have had to watch all night each night.

"We believe, that it is the duty of the Police Department to offer 24 hours around the clock protection and non interference with our lawful efforts to keep safe. Since November of 1957 the Police Department has not only offered very little or no protection, but also, through some of its officers, interfered with and molested the men on duty without provocation. Three times since November 2, Officers of the Department have taken weapons from the Church and our homes without warrants and provocation thus laying this property open at the mercy of the Marauders of the night. They have now begun arresting men on private property to keep them from voluntarily watching at this place.

"Sir, personal feelings have no place in this; this is life or death. This involves our constitutional right to be protected in our houses and possessions.

"Without rancor I lay before you specific acts of intimidation of your Department which leaves their motives highly suspect in view of the threats and dangers of this time:

"(1) In July, 1957 officers came in the church and molested our Deacon Chairman as he stood guard over our property. They told others to stay away.

"(2) Early in last November Police Officers came into the Church at approximately 5:a.m. one morning and took 2 guns to the department. Acknowledging our right to guard our property, they released them to us the next day up on our affidavits proving ownership.

"(3) On June 29 (date of Latest bombing) Officers took about 4 more guns out of the Church, leaving it open to attack. They were returned to us in like manner the next day with assurances that they would not remove our weapons again. On this as any occasion we offered our fullest cooperation to the Police Department. Upon my advise and personal persuasion the men on duty at the time of the bombing, the young lady who spotted the bomb, and the man for whom she worked all agreed and subsequently took lie detector tests in order to demonstrate to the Department our sincerity, honesty, and loyalty. We have been thanked for our cooperation and assured that the tests left no doubt in the officers' minds that we were victims only--not plotters or conspirators.

"(4) Last Wednesday, August 6th at approximately 4:a.m. Police Car #39 with 3 officers inside did either an unwise or otherwise provocative thing with conditions being as dangerous as they are here. The car cruised down 33rd Street very slowly with lights out, turned around at the front of the Church and moved slowly to the side of the Church to the exact spot of the June 29th blast and stopped there. They then opened the door and lighted cigarettes. In black darkness and under circumstances this certainly appeared another attempt to bomb the Church. We are threatened almost daily with calls about bombing the Church & Parsonage. This episode has also been reported to your office.

"(5) Last Friday night at about 10:p.m., Officers led by Assistant Chief Lance came out.

Several men were sitting on the low brick fence of James Revis, a Trustee of the Church and a watchman. With his permission men have sat in his yard and on his porch to look out for bombing attempts. Two (2) rifles were inside Revis's yard leaning against the fence. Police searched James Revis, the owner, all the men, and several young boys who had been in the yard buying cold drinks in support of a Church Baby Contest. Chief Lance ordered the arrest of Mack Daniel sitting on the fence charged him with violating the State Firearms Act. Actually the pistol was also inside the yard. Chief Lance then proceeded to search the Church, taking 1 rifle out of the Pastor's Study. In all they took 3 rifles and a 32 pistol. One of the rifles still had the Department release tag on it made out to me. We urged Chief Lance to leave an officer on duty until the weapons were returned. This was refused even as he also refused to give us the number off the pistol. They took names of all the people around and finally left. We argued that we had molested none, and never have the weapons in the streets, we have never interfered with persons passing the street.

"(6) On Saturday 8:15 p.m. Officers returned to search the home (without warrant) of a Church member, Levi Kemp; they searched another volunteer watchman at James Revis's fence. They have visited the home of Charlie Brooks who was present Friday night, and also called at Revis'. Even as I write a '53 Pontiac, Mississippi Plate #392666 with a white man in it is continually circling the block. Up to 9:20 he has circled about 20 times.

"These acts and others, Sir, amount to naked intimidation and molestation. We who have lived under the shadow of death and shaken by the eerie blasts of explosives are not inclined to voluntarily permit such to happen again.

"The taking of weapons and intimidating of guards are serving to deny us protection and to leave us

utterly helpless and at the mercy of bombers. To deliberately or inadvertently allow the property to be bombed again would be a most dastardly act. And the fact that high officials are leading these excursions lead us to believe them the acts of high policy.

"We ask only that protection due us as American Citizens and law abiding residents of Birmingham, Alabama. In the light of the extreme dangers and officials provocation we have no recourse but to seek aid of other and higher enforcement agencies of the State and Nation. We seek to be law abiding and orderly. We appeal to your position of public trust for immediate relief.

"Please let us hear from you at once, and please return our weapons speedily.

"Sincerely yours,

"/t/ Rev. F. L. Shuttlesworth, Pastor
Bethel Baptist Church

"REVFLS/lh

"p.s. In regards to Item #6 above episode '53 Pontiac. We believe this was deliberate provocation, as in several other instances which we could recite. We called the Police at once; but Police Department never came out to investigate."

- C -

- 8 -

FBI

Date: 8-12-58

Transmit the following in _____

(Type in plain text or code)

Via AIRTEL

AMSD - REGISTERED

(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO : Director, FBI

FROM: SAC, Birmingham (44-new)

RE : EUGENE "BULL" CONNOR, Birmingham
 Police Commissioner;
 Assistant Chief of Police J. C. LANCE and
 UNIDENTIFIED OFFICERS OF BIRMINGHAM
 POLICE DEPARTMENT.
 REVEREND F. L. SHUTTLESWORTH;
 JAMES REVIS; LEVI KEMP;
 CHARLIE BROOKS - VICTIMS.
 CR; RACIAL CONDITIONS,
 BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA

this date

BH Office received/special delivery registered letter dated 8-12-58 from Rev. F. L. SHUTTLESWORTH, 3191 - 29th Ave., North, BH. Letter stated, "Enclosed are copies of letters sent to the Commissioner of Public Safety and [REDACTED] concerning the lack of proper Police Protection and certain other acts which are violative of our rights to be secure in our persons, houses and possessions. Some of the persons mention in the statement have been arrested, some even twice, and held on trumped up charges. As I write these things continue.

"We are asking that you at least look into this problem of improper protection and other problems mentioned in the letter. We urge you to conduct a speedy investigation. (signed) Rev. F. L. SHUTTLESWORTH, Bethel Baptist Church, President, Alabama Christian Movement for Human Rights."

SHUTTLESWORTH enclosed copies of letters to [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] and a Mimeograph copy of a letter to Commissioner EUGENE CONNOR from SHUTTLESWORTH. SHUTTLESWORTH told [REDACTED]

3 - Bureau (AMSD-REGISTERED) (Encls-12)

2 - Birmingham (44-new) (100-3080)

CBS:MFL

(5)

ENCLOSURE ATTACHED

Sent

REC-36 MGT-5 EXCLOS

Ac: AAC Civil Rights Div

FORM 6-91

AUG 13 1958

BH 44-new

[REDACTED] (b7c)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

SHUTTLESWORTH's letter to Commissioner CONNOR sets forth certain alleged specific acts of intimidation by the BH PD. SHUTTLESWORTH points out that his church, the Bethel Baptist Church, has been bombed periodically since 1956; that inasmuch as his church has been refused protection by the PD, he and his members have had to voluntarily guard the property. SHUTTLESWORTH requests 24-hour around-the-clock police protection for his church and non-interference with his lawful efforts to keep it safe. SHUTTLESWORTH states, "Sir, personal feelings have no place in this. This is life or death. This involves our constitutional right to be protected in our houses and possessions." SHUTTLESWORTH specifically complains of the BH PD removing guns from the Bethel Baptist Church which were being used to guard the property. He said two guns were removed in Nov. 1957, and on 6-29-58, four more guns were taken from the church by officers of the BH PD.

SHUTTLESWORTH states that he and his men have cooperated with the BH PD by taking lie-detector tests and that they have been vindicated of any conspiracy. SHUTTLESWORTH complains of the homes of some of his church members being searched without warrants. "These acts and others, sir, amount to naked intimidation and molestation. We who have lived under the shadow of death and shaken by the eerie blasts of explosives are not inclined to voluntarily permit such to happen again."

SHUTTLESWORTH alleges in this letter that inasmuch as high officials of the BH PD are leading the "excursions" into his church and onto his property, it would appear that the acts are the result of "high policy." He concludes, "We ask only that protection due us as American Citizens and law abiding residents of Birmingham, Alabama. In the light of the extreme dangers and

NY 44-new

officials provocation we have no recourse but to seek aid of other and higher enforcement agencies of the State and Nation. We seek to be law abiding and orderly. We appeal to your position of public trust for immediate relief."

A [redacted] postal clerk employed at the Post Office [redacted] in BH, voluntarily advised SA [redacted] (b7c) that Rev. SHUTTLESWORTH mailed some special delivery letters to the FBI, BH, Commissioner CONNOR, and to [redacted] [redacted] also volunteered the information that at that time SHUTTLESWORTH remarked, "BULL CONNOR finally made the mistake we have been waiting for. We've got him where we want him now."

Rev. SHUTTLESWORTH's letter will be acknowledged, stating that the matter has been referred to the Dept. of Justice, UACB.

The afternoon edition of "The Birmingham Post," local newspaper, for 8-12-58, carries front-page story "Shuttlesworth Says He may Seek Help." This article stated that Birmingham Police today were questioning several Negroes reported to be among a group of guards at the Bethel Baptist Church of Rev. F. L. SHUTTLESWORTH, also that SHUTTLESWORTH had disclosed contents of a letter he sent to Commissioner EUGENE CONNOR. According to this article, SHUTTLESWORTH said he might "seek help from the State Attorney General, the Governor, the FBI, and the Justice Department."

In the event press inquiries are received, they will be answered by acknowledging the receipt of SHUTTLESWORTH's letter and that the matter has been referred to the Dept. of Justice, UACB.

Enclosed for the information of the Bureau are two Photostats each of the above mentioned letters, and of envelope addressed to F.B.I. Local Agency.

Closing report being submitted.

Connor Urges White Boycott, Not Violence

Alabama Campus
Is Closed Pending
Negro Enrollment

By the Associated Press

Bright yellow barricades isolated the University of Alabama campus today as segregationist leaders urged their followers to combat integration with dollars instead of violence.

Eugene (Bull) Connor, the militant former Birmingham police commissioner, called for a massive boycott of white merchants who advocate racial equality or crase the color line in their stores.

Hundreds of law enforcement officers, under orders to prevent trouble when two Negroes arrive to enroll at the university Tuesday, put the campus off limits to all but students, faculty members and authorized visitors, including scores of newsmen.

At the State Capitol in Montgomery, Gov. George Wallace, who has sworn to bar the Negroes from the university but has asked others to keep away, worked on another in a series of stay-at-home appeals. He will make a State-wide radio-television broadcast tomorrow night.

Governor to Appear

Gov. Wallace has promised to appear at the university to challenge a court order to admit the two Negroes and to do the same at the university extension center at Huntsville two days later when a third Negro is scheduled to enroll. A Federal court has ordered him not to interfere with the integration.

Mr. Connor, recently voted out of office by Birmingham residents wanting a change of government, spoke at a Citizens Council rally last night in a high school auditorium at suburban Holt, Ala.

Urging the 200 council members in the audience to "stay away from the university and tell your friends to do the same," the plain-spoken Democratic Party official warned grimly.

"We're not going to whip this thing with brickbats or sticks or guns. The Kennedys would give anything if we would have some trouble at the university. But if we don't have any trouble, we can beat them at their own game."

The white South's only remaining hope, said the Democratic national committeeman, "is economics. Boycott 'em."

Refers to Businessmen

He referred to merchants and other businessmen who, he charged, have "traded out with the Negroes."

He spoke with scorn of a citizens committee which negotiated a truce to halt a recent series of Negro demonstrations in Birmingham.

"If we had started a boycott 10 years ago," Mr. Connor continued, "we would have broken this up. These chain stores and people like them who do that their Yankee bosses tell them to, are the ones the South has got to teach a lesson to."

And, he added, some newspapers should be boycotted, too.

He said he may undertake to organize a Nation-wide boycott and promised that if such a campaign does develop "it'll be the doggonedest thing you ever saw."

While the Alabama situation was quiet, there were demonstrations at a number of other places as the integration fight continued.

In Savannah, Ga., 56 Negroes, including 30 juveniles, were arrested during attempts to gain service at restaurants. The youngsters were turned over to juvenile authorities and the others were placed under \$100 bonds on charges of trespass.

Police in Nashville, Tenn., arrested about a dozen Negroes taking part in what integration leaders termed "a deliberate campaign of civil disobedience" to gain more grocery store jobs for Negroes. The ones arrested had blocked an entrance to a store and refused to allow customers to enter.

There were 47 arrests at

- Mohr ☒
- Casper ☐
- Callahan ☐
- Conner ☒
- DeLoach ☒
- Evans ☒
- Gale ☒
- Rosen ☒
- Sullivan ☐
- Tavel ☐
- Trotter ☐
- Tele Room ☐
- Holmes ☐
- Gandy ☐

REC-89

File

- The Washington Post and Times Herald ☐
- The Washington Daily News ☐
- The Evening Star ☐
- New York Herald Tribune ☐
- New York Journal-American ☐
- New York Mirror ☐
- New York Daily News ☐
- New York Post ☐
- The New York Times ☐
- The Worker ☐
- The New Leader ☐
- The Wall Street Journal ☐
- The National Observer ☐
- Date ☐

REC-89

NOT RECORDED

149 JUN 12 1963

JUN 8 '63

56 JUN 12 1963

filed a State court ban on integration demonstrations. The Negroes staged downtown marches and played softball at a city park reserved for white persons.

The demonstrations followed an action in Federal court in which attorneys for the Negroes sought to set aside the State court injunction. It also was announced that a suit is being prepared to attack discrimination and segregation in public places.

Carolinian Killed

Lexington, N. C., the scene of a violent riot Thursday night was under the watchful eyes of 150 State troopers. The State police moved in after one man was killed, another wounded and a number arrested or charged. The riot had been set off by an anti-segregation demonstration by a group of 15 Negroes.

An effort to obtain service at a State office building cafeteria in Tallahassee, Fla., proved fruitless for 13 Negroes, including the Rev. David Brooks, Episcopal chaplain at Florida A&M University. The dining room, within a stone's throw of the capitol, was closed so the Negroes could not be served.

Two men accused of fighting in a desegregation riot at the University of Mississippi were acquitted at Oxford, Miss., after more than an hour of deliberation by a jury. But the mother of one of the men, Mrs. Lily Lou Myles of Prichard, Ala., was cited for contempt for an outburst during testimony. She was placed under \$1,000 bond.

Deadline Fixed

Negro leaders in Los Angeles announced a 10-day deadline for progress against discrimination or "demonstrations will come on the 11th day." The leaders gave their reactions in a news conference to Thursday's four-hour meeting with Government and industry representatives.

Racial peace returned to Greensboro, N. C., after city officials and leaders of an anti-segregation movement reached a truce agreement. After a meeting with business and industrial leaders, Mayor David Schenck issued a statement calling on local businesses and institutions to desegregate completely.

A special grand jury investigating racial unrest in Danville, Va., returned indictments against three Negro leaders on charges of inciting to riot. They included two ministers and a taxicab operator. The investigations resulted from demonstrations Wednesday in which 15 Negroes were arrested.

Belmont ☒
 Mohr ☒
 Callahan ☒
 Conrad ☒
 DeLoach ☒
 Evans ☒
 Gale ☒
 Rosen ☒
 Sullivan ☒
 Tavel ☒
 Trotter ☒
 Tele Room ☒
 Holmes ☒
 Gandy ☒

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The Washington Merry-Go-Round

'Bull' Connor Is Alabama Delegate

By Drew Pearson

ATLANTIC CITY, Aug. 25

Whispers have swept through Atlantic City's Harlem that Eugene (Bull) Connor, the former Birmingham Police Commissioner who turned fire hoses and police dogs on Negro demonstrators, is in town.



Pearson

He has come to the Democratic Convention both as a delegate and as Alabama's national committeeman.

Bull advertises his presence wherever he goes in a booming voice, the accent as thick as southern gravy.

He also hasn't soft-pedaled his view since crossing the Mason-Dixon Line. He huffs and puffs against Negroes, civil rights, President Johnson, and the "National" Democratic Party. He doesn't like Sen. Barry Goldwater much better because of his pledge to enforce the civil rights law if elected President. In fact, Connor doesn't even have a good word for his own Gov. George Wallace, the champion of white supremacy. Bull blames Wallace for pulling out of the presidential race and leaving

segregationists with no one to vote for.

Humphrey's Contract

Minnesota Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey, who came to the Democratic convention as the vice presidential favorite, quietly tried to get out of his contract to broadcast for ABC-TV so he would have more freedom for politics.

He even asked President Johnson's advice whether he should break the contract. The President said it was up to him.

Humphrey signed the TV contract before President Kennedy's assassination and at that time there was no thought that Humphrey might become a vice presidential contender. The renomination of the Kennedy-Johnson ticket was expected to be routine.

The Minnesota Senator, a man of modest means, also frankly needed the \$25,000 that ABC offered.

The contract contained a provision that he could cancel out if his telecasts should conflict with any role he might be given at the convention. Humphrey was afraid to invoke this clause, however, lest it be interpreted that he had been offered the vice presidential nomination.

He explained his predicament to the President, who

smilingly declined to offer him any advice. So, the harassed Humphrey went ahead with the telecasts, even though as a vice presidential prospect he also was interviewed frequently by the other networks.

A disgruntled ABC official commented privately that Humphrey had appeared more on the CBS network, which paid him nothing, than on ABC-TV.

Powell's Storm

Harlem's swashbuckling Rep. Adam Clayton Powell blew into Atlantic City packing a revolver and kicking up controversy.

He produced a New York pistol permit, claimed congressional immunity, and announced to startled police that everywhere Adam went, the gun was going to go.

A spokesman for the New Jersey State Police informed this column, however, that the Representative would have to check his shooter at the door of Convention Hall before he would be permitted in the same building with the President. The State Police have the responsibility for guarding the hall.

"No one is going to be allowed within range of the President carrying a gun," snorted the spokesman. "We

Handwritten notes and signatures, including "TAP" and "JL".

- The Washington Post and Times Herald ☒
- The Washington Daily News ☒
- The Evening Star ☒
- New York Herald Tribune ☒
- New York Journal-American ☒
- New York Mirror ☒
- New York Daily News ☒
- New York Post ☒
- The New York Times ☒
- The Worker ☒
- The New Leader ☒
- The Wall Street Journal ☒
- The National Observer ☒
- People's World ☒
- Date ☒

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don't care whether he's a Congressman or not."

Meanwhile, the irrepressible Powell was already in the middle of another row. One of his New York associates, John Young, a self-styled Harlem public relations man, tried to book Atlantic City's Harlem Club to throw a money-raising whing-ding for Powell.

Atlantic City's No. 1 Negro citizen, attorney Maceo Turner, who heads the local NAACP chapter, got wind of Young's plan. He served notice that if anyone gave a party for Powell, it should be the local NAACP. This brought a row among Negro factions as bitter for a time as the white-black row between the two Mississippi delegations. When Turner went ahead with plans to rent the Harlem Club for a party in Powell's honor, the infuriated Young actually threatened to import demonstrators to picket the NAACP at the Harlem Club. He even threatened to bring 100 strong-arm-men down from the streets of Harlem to put Atlantic City Negroes in their place.

However, an appeal was made to Powell, who promised to keep Young under control. The Representative assured Turner there would be no strong-arm stuff and in the end there was not.

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CONNOR FELLOWSHIP DINNER
Tutwiler Hotel
Birmingham, Alabama

December 31, 1964

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Belmont	✓
Mr. Mohr	✓
Mr. DeLoach	✓
Mr. Casper	✓
Mr. Callahan	✓
Mr. Conrad	✓
Mr. Felt	✓
Mr. Gale	✓
Mr. Rosen	✓
Mr. Sullivan	✓
Mr. Tavel	✓
Mr. Trotter	✓
Tele. Room	✓
Miss Holmes	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

We are sending you this special invitation as a friend of Eugene 'Bull' Connor to attend his inaugural dinner at the Tutwiler Hotel Monday night, January 11. As you know, our good friend, 'Bull' Connor was elected president of the Alabama Public Service Commission and takes office on Monday, January 18. He is being sworn in by Chief Justice Ed Livingston at this dinner in a ceremony that to our knowledge, will be unique in Alabama's political history.

This ceremony is being performed in Birmingham because of Mr. Connor's love of his home town which he served so well as Police Public Safety Commissioner for 23 years. Prior to this he served in the state legislature for three years, a record of public service which seldom has been equaled. In addition to these offices, Mr. Connor was elected Alabama's Democratic National Committeeman for two terms, and is now serving in that capacity. He was elected delegate to the National Democratic Convention three times.

Many of Mr. Connor's friends will be on hand for the "get-acquainted" hour which begins at 6 p.m. His former associates in Birmingham on the City government and his friends and neighbors of the community will be here to wish him well in his new office. His associate commissioners on the Public Service Commission will welcome him to the new post and pledge their cooperation in establishing a progressive term for the next four years.

The enclosed card needs only your signature and a designated number of tickets which you wish reserved.

Cordial regards,

Don Drennen

Don Drennen
Connor Fellowship Dinner Chairman

Joe W. Reid

Joe W. Reid
Vice Chairman
Res 592-1121 Office 787-4617

REC-287

MCT-13

D. J. Fitzgerald

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56 JAN 12 1965

ENCLOSURE

CORRESPONDENCE

I shall attend

The Eugene 'Bull' Conner Fellowship Dinner and Inauguration
Ceremony Monday night, January 11, 1965.

Enclosed is my check for \$_____ for _____ reservations
(\$10.00 per person). I understand that this includes the Social Hour,
Dinner, Tax, Gratuity and Entertainment.

Social Hour 6:00 p.m.
Dinner 7:00 p.m.
Tutwiler Hotel

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

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Mr. Joe W. Reid
CONNOR FELLOWSHIP DINNER
Tutwiler Hotel
Birmingham, Alabama

